



THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

11 December, 2025

The Bertebos Prize 2026, SEK 400 000, is awarded to Professor Curtis Pozniak, University of Saskatoon, Canada

Professor Curtis Pozniak receive the Bertebos Prize 2026 for groundbreaking work in breeding resistant, high-yielding wheat varieties adapted to sustainable agriculture in a changing climate.

Professor Curtis Pozniak, University of Saskatoon, Canada, has played a major role in improving wheat production by breeding resistant, high-yielding varieties that are adapted to a changing climate and sustainable agricultural systems. He is a geneticist and has through groundbreaking scientific and organizational work, made a decisive contribution to the mapping of the total gene set of both bread and durum wheat by coordinating the efforts of many researchers.

– Wheat is an important crop that accounts for twenty percent of humanity's calorie intake, says Professor Jan Stenlid, Vice president of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA), and Chairman of the Bertebos' Prize Committee. The work of professor Pozniak can be seen as one of the great contributions of our time to increased and sustainable food production that reduces humanity's negative environmental footprint.

Professor Pozniak has developed new varieties of wheat that are drought tolerant and resistant to diseases and insects. He has also mapped genes for disease resistance in wild grasses, something that may have a practical use in developing future sustainable crops.

The prize will be distributed by His Majesty the King at the Academy Commemorative Meeting on 28 January, 2026. A part of the prize is the opportunity to arrange a seminar in the field. [More information on earlier prize laureates.](#)

More information

Please contact professor Jan Stenlid, +46 (0)707 607 059, for more information.

The BERTEBOS prize – SEK 400 000

The Bertebos prize was instituted in 1996 by [the Bertebos Foundation](#). It is distributed by the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry for highly qualified, pioneering development methods referring to food, agriculture, animal health or ecology. The prize is distributed every second year.